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LONG COUNTRY ROADS

Tim McGraw gave up drinking and found a path to 'Freedom' **13**

MILITARY MILESTONE

Pentagon plans to extend some benefits to same-sex couples **4**

CHANGE MECHANISM?

Va. conservatives explore minting money in case Fed falters **9**



FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 21



CLEARED TO KILL

A memo details the U.S. protocol for attacks on terror suspects — including Americans who pose no imminent threat **10**



GETTY IMAGES/EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION



eye openers

ROMANCE

Making Radio Stations Play ‘Let’s Get It On’ a Step Too Far

A sheriff in Mississippi is trying to get motorists in the Valentine’s Day spirit. Hinds County Sheriff Tyrone Lewis paid to have a billboard read “Happy Valentine’s Day,” the Clarion-Ledger reported. The billboard shows the sheriff, in a red tie, next to images of roses and chocolates. Lewis has used billboards to celebrate other holidays and increase the presence of the department. (EXPRESS)

THINGS THAT SHOULD BE DONE

“If you can put it on the front of a movie theater, you can say it out loud.”

— PAUL HEACOCK, EDITOR OF THE CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN IDIOM, ON A GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN TO CHANGE KENTUCKY’S OFFICIAL SLOGAN FROM “UNBRIDLED SPIRIT” TO “KENTUCKY KICKS ASS,” THE BBC REPORTED MONDAY

FAILURES

By the Time They Get to You, She May Already Be Pregnant

Need a condom delivered to your doorstep in an hour? Then Dubai is the place to be. The Gulf metropolis now features a service from Durex and Buzzman Middle East called SOS Condoms, in which users can use their smartphones to have Durex products delivered within an hour to anywhere in the city from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. A spokesman for Buzzman said Thursday that the service will expand to other cities. (AP)

The Big Picture



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: Curious tourists and locals watch as French daredevil Alain Robert scales the Habana Libre hotel in Cuba without using ropes or a safety net Monday. Having scaled much taller buildings in the past, the man known as the French Spider-Man was able to reach the top of the 27-story building in 30 minutes.

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Obama Urges Congress To Delay Budget Cuts

President: Short-term cuts and higher taxes could stall sequester

Washington

Eager to buy time and avoid economic pain, President Barack Obama pressed Congress on Tuesday to pass targeted short-term spending cuts and higher taxes as a way to put off sweeping, automatic cuts that would slice deeply into military and domestic programs starting March 1.

Meanwhile Tuesday, on the House floor, Republicans in an attempt at political messaging took up legislation to require Obama to submit a budget that would balance within a decade or specify when it would come to balance.

Obama made his case minutes after the Congressional Budget Office released revised budget projections that showed the deficit will drop to \$845 billion this year, the first time during Obama's



President Barack Obama asked Congress Tuesday to delay across-the-board cuts.

presidency that the red ink would fall below \$1 trillion. The budget office also said the economy will grow slowly in 2013, hindered by a tax increase enacted in January and by the automatic spending cuts scheduled to take effect this spring.

It is those cuts that Obama is seeking to put off with less onerous measures. Neither the president nor White House aides specified what

those measures should be.

"There's no reason that the jobs of thousands of American who work in national security or education or clean energy, not to mention the growth of the entire economy, should be put in jeopardy just because folks in Washington couldn't come together," he said.

Obama said Congress needs more time to work out a 10-year

Meanwhile ...

The Obama administration is warning federal workers they might be placed on temporary unpaid leave if the across-the-board budget cuts are implemented. A draft memo, based on guidance to federal agencies from the Office of Management and Budget, says the administration may "have to consider placing employees on temporary furlough, or taking other personnel actions, should sequestration occur."

(THE WASHINGTON POST)

plan worth more than \$1 trillion in deficit reduction. Finding deficit reductions of up to \$85 billion would put off the automatic cuts, known as a "sequester" in government budget language, until the start of the new fiscal year.

In a statement earlier in the day, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said that additional tax hikes were out of the question.

"Americans do not support sacrificing real spending cuts for more tax hikes," he wrote. "The president's sequester should be replaced with spending cuts and reforms that will start us on the path to balancing the budget in 10 years."

ANDREW TAYLOR AND JIM KUHNHENN (AP)

In Brief

SANFORD, FLA.

Judge: No Trial Delay In Trayvon Martin Case



Zimmerman

The murder trial for George Zimmerman, the Florida man charged in the shooting death of teenager Trayvon Martin, remains set for June 10 after a judge on Tuesday denied a defense request for a postponement. (AP)

WASHINGTON

GOP Senator Says Hagel Seems 'Clueless' on Iran

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham said Tuesday in a statement that Chuck Hagel "seems clueless" on U.S. policy toward Iran and he urged the Obama administration to reconsider its defense secretary nominee. The South Carolina lawmaker stopped short of saying he would filibuster the choice. (AP)

2.48M

The number of background checks for firearms sales in January—falling 10 percent from the more than 2.78 million in December, according to an Associated Press analysis released Tuesday. (AP)



Facebook Fatigue: Too much drama, too busy or a general disinterest are just some of the reasons some 61 percent of Facebook users give for taking a break from the site for weeks at a time, according to a new study released Tuesday by the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project. Pew found that 67 percent of Americans who use the Internet are on Facebook, and 20 percent say they once used the site but no longer do so. (AP)



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Nation

Sources: Same-Sex Military Spouses to Get Benefits

But 1996 law means Pentagon is limited in what it can offer

Washington

The Pentagon has decided to extend certain benefits to the spouses of gay and lesbian personnel, according to officials and people notified about the decision, responding to the increasingly vocal appeals of

same-sex couples in the military.

The military expects to announce the decision this week.

Officials at the Pentagon would not say which new benefits the department has determined it can extend to same-sex couples without violating the Defense of Marriage Act, a 1996 law that bars the federal government from legally recognizing same-sex unions. Gay rights advocates have called for benefits including housing privileges and

joint duty assignments for couples in the military.

Legal experts say, however, that the Pentagon will be unable to extend more than 100 benefits while the act remains in place.

The new guidelines will be departing Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta's final imprint on the armed forces. They come on the heels of two landmark changes under his tenure: the rescinding of the ban on openly gay service members

Activists and lawmakers say that the Pentagon will be unable to extend more than 100 benefits while the Defense of Marriage Act remains in place.

and the decision to allow women to serve in combat units.

The military "has established a two-tiered system regarding how they treat the haves and have-not families," said Allyson Robinson, the executive director of Out-Serve-SLDN, an organization that has been pressing the Pentagon to expand benefits to same-sex couples. "It's an untenable leadership situation." ERNESTO LONDOÑO

(THE WASHINGTON POST)

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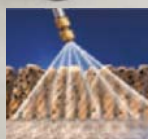
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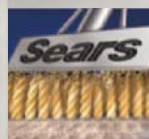


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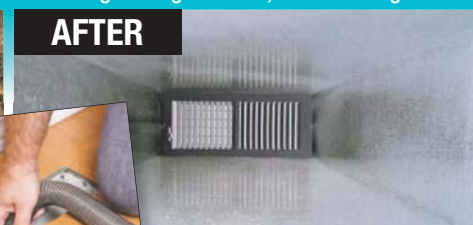
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World

In Brief



Malian troops on Tuesday patrol Gao, a town recently freed of militant rule.

TIMBUKTU, MALI

Forces Move Northward In Push to Oust Militants

Troops from France and Chad moved into Kidal in an effort to secure the strategic north Malian city, a French official said Tuesday, as the international force put further pressure on the Islamic extremists to push them out of their last major bastion of control in the north. (AP)

MEXICO CITY

Officials: Gas Leak May Have Led to Deadly Blast

A water-heating system may have leaked gas into a tunnel beneath the headquarters of Mexico's national oil company for more than seven months before it was accidentally detonated by a maintenance crew's improvised lighting, officials said Tuesday. Thirty-seven people died in the Thursday blast at Petroleos Mexicanos' headquarters in Mexico City. (AP)

BERLIN

2nd Official Loses Ph.D. Amid Plagiarism Claims

A panel stripped German Education Minister Annette Schavan of her doctorate Tuesday after it concluded that she plagiarized parts of her 1980 thesis. She is the second official in Angela Merkel's cabinet to lose a degree. Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg resigned in 2011 after it emerged that he copied large parts of his doctoral thesis. (AP)

Bulgaria: Hezbollah Bombed Bus

Militants led July's deadly attack on Israelis, officials say

Sofia, Bulgaria

Hezbollah was behind a bus attack that killed five Israeli tourists in Bulgaria last year, investigators said Tuesday, describing a sophisticated bombing carried out by a terrorist cell that included Canadian and Australian citizens.

The first major announcement in the investigation carried broad diplomatic implications, as countries that consider the Shiite militant group to be a terrorist organization called on Europe — which has resisted such a move — to crack down on the group. The U.S. and Canada consider it a terrorist group.

Two of the three suspects had been in Lebanon for years, one with a Canadian passport and the other with an Australian one, Interior Minister Tsvetan Tsvetanov said. "We have well-grounded rea-



A deadly bus bombing in Burgas, Bulgaria, targeted Israeli tourists July 19.

sons to suggest that the two were members of the militant wing of Hezbollah," Tsvetanov said.

Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati condemned the attack and said his country would cooperate.

Hezbollah, a Shiite militant group and political party in Lebanon, has been linked to attacks and kidnappings on Israeli and Jewish interests around the world.

The group has denied involvement in the Bulgaria bombing.

The bomb exploded as the Israeli tourists traveled in the Black Sea resort of Burgas. The blast also killed the Bulgarian driver and the suspected bomber.

The investigators found no links to Iran, which Israel had accused of playing a role in the attack. PAISLEY DODDS AND VESELIN TOSHKOV (AP)

Homegrown Terror

Here are some recent "home-grown terrorists" — Western citizens prized by Islamic militants because they can easily cross borders and carry out attacks:



► **Anwar al-Awlaki** was born in 1971 in New Mexico. He left the U.S. in

2002 and became a key figure in Yemen's al-Qaeda branch. He was killed in a U.S. drone attack in 2011.



► In May 2010, police found a vehicle rigged with a bomb that failed to explode

in New York's Times Square. **Faisal Shahzad**, a Pakistan-born U.S. citizen, received a life sentence.

► British-born **Ahmad Omar Saeed Sheikh** joined militants in South Asia. In 2002, he was convicted in the murder of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl. (AP)

Visit Signals New Egypt-Iran Ties

Cairo

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad discussed the crisis in Syria with his Egyptian counterpart Tuesday in the first visit by an Iranian leader to Cairo in more than three decades, marking a historic departure from years of frigid ties between the regional heavyweights.

Ahmadinejad's three-day visit, centered on an Islamic summit, is the latest sign of efforts by Egypt's Islamist President Mohammed Morsi to improve relations since Iran's 1979 revolution.



Ahmadinejad

Morsi

Morsi's flirtation with Iran is seen as aiming to strike an independent foreign policy and broaden Egypt's connections after the ouster two years ago of Hosni Mubarak. Such a visit would have been unthinkable under Mubarak, a close ally of the U.S. (AP)

A Dismal Discovery in Iceland



DEAD HERRING FLOAT in Kolgrafaffjörður, a small fjord in western Iceland, on Tuesday. The second mass killing in two months has claimed tens of thousands of tons of herring, worth millions of dollars. The lack of oxygen is thought to have been caused by a landfill and bridge constructed there in 2004.

2018 The projected year by which Iran plans to send its first astronauts into space, the Iranian semi-official news agency Mehr reported Tuesday. It cited Mohammad Ebrahimi, a senior official in Iran's space agency, as saying the flight of two trained Iranian astronauts has been slated for between 2016 and 2018. It is the latest in a series of statements from Iranian officials on the government's ambitious space program. (AP)

World

U.K. Moves Closer to Same-Sex Marriages

London

British lawmakers on Tuesday voted overwhelmingly in favor of a bill to legalize same-sex marriage championed by Prime Minister David Cameron, despite stronger-than-expected opposition from within his Conservative Party.

In a first House of Commons vote, lawmakers voted 400 to 175 in support of the legislation. There was strong support from the left-leaning Labour Party and Liberal Democrats party, but many Conservatives rejected the proposals.

Earlier in the day, Cameron said passing the bill is "an important step forward" for Britain.

The bill will have to go through more detailed parliamentary debates and a vote in the House of Lords, where a vote in favor is likely given the strong support Tuesday. If it becomes law, the proposed bill would enable same-sex couples to get married in both civil and religious ceremonies, provided that the religious institution consents.

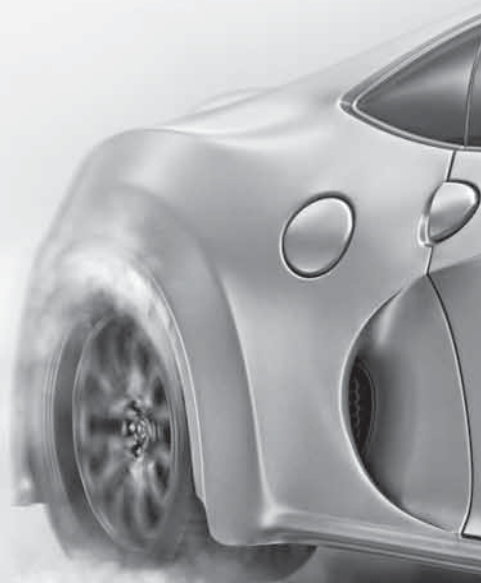
Officials have stressed that all religious organizations can decide if they want to "opt in." The provisions would take effect in 2015. (AP)

Hearsay

"This is a moment for the people of Kenya to come together, instead of tearing apart."

— PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA, ON TUESDAY URGING KENYANS — IN A RARE COUNTRY-SPECIFIC YOUTUBE ADDRESS — TO REJECT VIOLENCE IN NEXT MONTH'S GENERAL ELECTION. OBAMA OPENED AND CLOSED THE MESSAGE TO HIS FATHER'S HOMELAND WITH SWAHILI GREETINGS.

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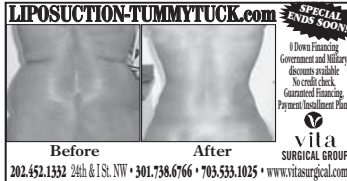
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The speed limit on the Intercounty Connector between Montgomery and Prince George's counties will go up to 60 mph.

ICC Speed Limit to Rise

New limit of 60 mph
 will go into effect on
 highway by March 31

Annapolis, Md.

The Maryland Transportation Authority announced Monday that it will increase the speed limit on the Intercounty Connector to 60 mph from the current 55 mph limit. The new speed limit will become effective by March 31.

Drivers have complained that because the ICC is usually uncrowded or empty, it is easy to drift over the 55 mph limit. The MDTA began an engineering study last year to explore the issue, and it found that the speed limit could be safely increased. Warning signs before curves will also be added to the roadway, as recommended by the study.

An analysis of crashes that occurred during the ICC's first full year of operations, from December

2011 through December 2012, also found that speeding was not to blame for most of these accidents.

The ICC was designed for a 60 mph speed limit. The authority said it believes the speed limit increase will save drivers about 90 seconds of travel time.

Last month, about two dozen lawmakers in Maryland co-sponsored a bill that would let the state raise speed limits to 70 mph on the ICC and other highways.

MARK BERMAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)



Learn About Metro's \$26B Strategic Plan

Richmond

Metro riders with questions about the transit agency's long-term plans can learn more at a meeting next week in Silver Spring.

Shyam Kannan, Metro's head of planning, will discuss the agency's strategic plan at a meeting of the Action Committee for Transit, a transportation advocacy group in Montgomery County.

The \$26 billion plan calls for new rail tunnels in D.C. and eight-car trains across the system. The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Silver Spring Civic Center. MARK BERMAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)



Tag @ExpressDCrider in your Instagram posts of the transit system, and if we ♥ your shot, email it to us for publication at **dcrider@wpost.com.**

In Brief

SPRINGFIELD, VA.

3 High School Students Face Child-Porn Charges

Fairfax County Police have charged three students at West Springfield High School with possessing and distributing child pornography as part of an ongoing investigation. The three students, ages 15 and 16, were charged last month, but police did not make the charges public because the investigation continues. Police say they have identified six teenage girls from schools in the region who were victims. Police won't say how the illicit videos were distributed. (AP)

ROCKVILLE

Ex-Swim Coach to Plead Guilty in Sex-Abuse Case

Longtime local swim coach Rick Curl, whose former athletes include Olympic gold medalists, has agreed to plead guilty to child sexual abuse at a hearing scheduled for Feb. 21 in Montgomery County Circuit Court. Curl, 63, was charged in October after former swim student Kelley Currin told authorities that he began abusing her in 1983. She was 13 years old at the time and said the abuse continued until she was 18. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

WASHINGTON

Smithsonian Picks New Portrait Gallery Director

The Smithsonian Institution named a leading Philadelphia museum executive and art historian to be the next director of the National Portrait Gallery on Tuesday. Kim Sajet, the president and CEO of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, will join the Smithsonian beginning April 1. She will oversee a collection of 21,000 objects, including such famous images as Alexander Gardner's "cracked plate" photograph of Abraham Lincoln. (AP)

Va. Currency Is Closer to Reality

Conservatives say bill safeguards state against bank failure

Richmond, Va.

A proposal to study whether Virginia should adopt its own currency passed the state House of Delegates on Monday after gaining support from a number of conservative economists.

Del. Bob Marshall, R-Prince William, has been fighting for the bill for three years as a safeguard against what he believes is a central banking system that has swung out of control.

But until Monday, the plan seemed little more than a quixotic quest. The House voted 65 to 32 to approve the measure.

"Our nation's most fundamental principles — equal rights, rule of law, private property rights, individual liberty — still require a dependable dollar to be meaningfully preserved," the bill reads.

The plan calls for spending \$17,440 to create a 10-member commission, which would determine the "need, means and schedule for establishing a metallic-based monetary unit" — in other words, a return to a gold standard.

Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell has said in the past that he does not

Meanwhile ...

The idea of a Virginia currency has been derided by many Democrats as a fruitless endeavor. "Are we seriously going to spend taxpayer resources studying a replacement to the world's backbone currency? Are we descending into la-la land?" Fairfax Del. Mark D. Sickles, the Democratic Caucus chairman, said in an interview last month.

(TWP)

support the commonwealth printing its own money.

But that the bill has made it even this far underscores the depth of dis-

trust among some surrounding the nation's central bank.

Marshall first introduced the idea as the 2008 financial crisis rocked many Americans' faith in the foundations of the economy. One of the focal points of the distrust was the Federal Reserve, which controls the supply of money.

Marshall is not the only legislator who is worried: Bills related to the gold standard were introduced in four other states this year.

Marshall has also said Virginia should be prepared with an alternative currency in case the country's financial system is felled by a cyberattack.

YLAN Q. MUI (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Bodies Discovered After SE Fire

FIREFIGHTERS GATHER in the aftermath of a blaze that destroyed a vacant apartment building in the 1700 block of R Street SE on Tuesday. Two bodies were found, and officials said they appeared to be squatters. A neighbor said she heard noises and smelled food cooking there most nights. | postlocal.com

Hearsay

"I love the rich tradition ... but this is our time, and we need to create new traditions, new legacies."

— **KEVIN MERIDA**, ON THE WASHINGTON POST, AFTER HE WAS NAMED THE PAPER'S FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN MANAGING EDITOR MONDAY. MERIDA WAS RAISED IN D.C. AND MARYLAND.



Healthy adult volunteers needed



The National Institute of Mental Health is conducting outpatient research studies on fear and anxiety at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

Over a period of one to three visits of one to three hours each, participants will be interviewed and complete computer tasks during which heart rate will be recorded. Volunteers must be between 18-50 years of age, medically healthy, and not be taking medication. There is no cost for study-related tests. Compensation will be provided.

For more information, please call:
1-800-411-1222 (TTY: 1-866-411-1010)
Se habla español
Or go online, clinicaltrials.gov

Refer to study #: 01-M-0185 or 02-M-0321

**Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Mental Health**

The NIH Clinical Center, America's research hospital, is located on the Metro red line in Bethesda, Maryland.

NIH...Turning Discovery Into Health

The Lotteries**Tuesday, Feb. 5****District**

Mid-day Lucky Numbers 4-2-9
Evening Lucky Numbers (Mon.) 9-3-1
Mid-day DC 4 7-1-0-9
Evening DC 4 (Mon.) 0-5-1-1
Mid-day D.C. Five 2-2-9-9-4
Evening D.C. Five (Mon.) 8-9-4-4-6

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3 3-5-9
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.) 2-2-5
Mid-day Pick 4 4-9-5-9
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.) 4-5-5-7
Mid-day Cash 5 (Tues.) 1-10-12-25-31
Evening Cash 5 (Mon.) 4-8-11-17-29

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a claims location. Drawings that occur after Express' deadline will be published two days later.

Maryland

Mid-day Pick 3 2-1-0
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.) 2-2-2
Mid-day Pick 4 4-0-7-5
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.) 9-4-1-0
Match 5 (Mon.) 14-17-26-29-33 (25)

Cover Story

Drones Stir Fierce Debate

As details emerge on a lethal U.S. policy, lawmakers sound the alarm

Washington

Uncomfortable with the Obama administration's use of deadly drones, a growing number in Congress are looking to limit America's authority to kill suspected terrorists, even U.S. citizens. The Democratic-led outcry was emboldened by the revelation in a newly surfaced Justice Department memo that shows drones can strike against a wider range of threats, with less evidence, than previously believed.

The drone program, which has been used from Pakistan across the Middle East and into North Africa to find and kill an unknown number of suspected terrorists, is expected to be a top topic of debate when the Senate Intelligence Committee grills John Brennan, the White House's pick for CIA chief, at a hearing Thursday.

The White House on Tuesday defended its lethal drone program by citing the very laws that some in Congress once believed were appropriate in the years immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks but now think may be too broad.

"The original authorization of use of force, I think, is being strained to its limits," Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., said recently.

Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the No. 2 Democrat in the House, said Tuesday that "it deserves a serious look at how we make the decisions in government to take out, kill, eliminate, whatever word you want to use, not just American citizens but other citizens as well."

Earlier this week, a group of 11 Democratic and Republican senators urged President Barack Obama to release a classified Jus-



S.S. MIRZA/AP/GETTY IMAGES

Is It Legal? Constitutional Controversy

The Fourth Amendment, which serves in part to protect Americans from "unreasonable searches and seizures," is at the heart of the uproar over the Obama administration's recently detailed policy on targeted killings.

What the Justice Department Says

According to a classified document recently made public, the use of lethal force would not violate the Fourth Amendment when a targeted person is an operational leader of an enemy force and an informed, high-level official has determined that he poses an imminent threat of violent attack against the U.S.

What Opponents Say

The American Civil Liberties Union on Monday night blasted the document as a summary of "a stunning overreach of executive authority — the claimed power to declare Americans a threat and kill them far from a recognized battlefield and without any judicial involvement before or after the fact." (AP/TWP)

Justice Department legal opinion justifying when U.S. counterterrorism missions, including drone strikes, can be used to kill U.S. citizens abroad.

Instead, members of Congress received an unclassified Justice

Department memo, which falls short of giving the senators all the information they requested.

First detailed publicly by NBC News late Monday, the memo for the first time outlines the Obama

UNPOPULAR PROGRAM

The American drone program has strained relations between the U.S. and countries where the aerial attacks occur, as some have killed civilians. Above, men in Multan, Pakistan, protest drones Jan. 8.

PAKISTAN REACTS

"Let me assure you that since we have been in government, there has been no quiet complicity, no question of wink and nod."

— **SHERRY REHMAN**, PAKISTAN'S AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., ON TUESDAY REFERRING TO PAKISTAN'S ROLE IN HUNDREDS OF DRONE ATTACKS BY THE U.S. ON MILITANT TARGETS, MOST OF THEM UNDER THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

administration's decision to kill al-Qaeda suspects without any evidence that imminent attacks are being planned against the U.S.

The memo was immediately decried by civil liberties groups as "profoundly disturbing" — especially in light of 2011 U.S. drone strikes in Yemen that killed three U.S. citizens: Anwar al-Awlaki, his 16-year-old son and Samir Khan.

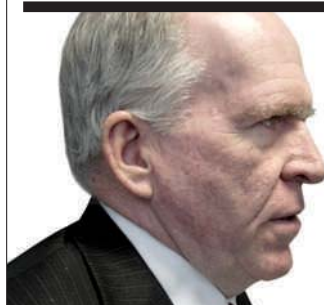
White House spokesman Jay Carney on Tuesday called the strikes "legal, ethical and wise." He also said they are covered by a law that Congress approved allowing the use of "all necessary and appropriate force" against al-Qaeda and other groups believed to be helping the terror network, including the use of drone strikes.

Both the CIA and the U.S. military are currently authorized to remotely pilot unmanned, missile-carrying drones against terror suspects.

It's unknown exactly how many strikes have been carried out, but experts say that drone attacks in Pakistan are conducted by the CIA, while those in Yemen and Somalia, for example, are by military forces.

The drone debate puts Obama — himself a former civil rights lawyer — in the awkward position of carrying out lethal attacks in secret and bucking his political allies in the Democratic Party.

Still, experts who closely watch the U.S. drone policy say it's unlikely that Congress can — or will — do much to scale back their use for fear of being seen as soft on terrorism. LARA JAKES (AP)



Scrutiny of CIA Nominee Ramps Up

A burly 25-year CIA veteran with a stern public demeanor, John Brennan is the principal architect of a policy that has transformed counterterrorism from a conventional fight centered in Afghanistan to a high-tech global effort to track down and eliminate perceived enemies one by one. Brennan has largely influenced the Obama administration's procedures for secret targeted killings that have come to define its fight against al-Qaeda and its affiliates. The administration's refusal to provide details on one of the most controversial aspects of its drone campaign — the rules regarding strikes on U.S. citizens abroad — is expected to be a source of significant friction for Brennan during his Senate confirmation hearing to become director of the CIA scheduled for Thursday. (TWP)



Kings of New York?

The Ravens' Super Bowl victory is already a few days old, so why not look ahead to next season? Repeating won't be easy. The past seven defending champions failed to win even a playoff game the year after their Super Bowl victory — including three which missed the playoffs altogether. Who has the best chance to dethrone the Ravens next year at MetLife Stadium? JEFFREY TOMIK (EXPRESS)

1. New England Patriots

2012 RECORD: 12-4

The Patriots have the best shot to win Super Bowl XLVIII. They've made the playoffs four straight seasons and have won at least one postseason game the past two years. No team has been more consistent than New England, and if tight end Rob Gronkowski can stay healthy, there won't be a better offense in the league.

2. Atlanta Falcons

2012 RECORD: 13-3

Over the past three years, the Falcons' 36 regular-season wins are more than any other NFC team's. But for some reason, Atlanta usually gets overlooked. Matt Ryan finally got his first playoff win, and he has the best receiving duo in the league at his disposal with Roddy White and Julio Jones — both had more than 1,100 receiving yards in 2012.

3. Denver Broncos

2012 RECORD: 13-3

Peyton Manning is the best regular-season quarterback in NFL history, but something usually goes wrong in the playoffs (like having his defense allow a 70-yard touchdown with under a minute left). After a full season with the Broncos' receivers, Manning should be even better in Denver next year. But will it equate to postseason success?

4. Seattle Seahawks

2012 RECORD: 11-5

If the Seahawks can add a weapon at receiver to complement Sidney Rice, they will be the most complete team in the league. Their backfield features dual-threat quarterback Russell Wilson and punishing rusher Marshawn Lynch. Their defense, which allowed the fewest points in the league last season, boasts one of the best secondaries and a couple of solid pass rushers.

5. San Francisco 49ers

2012 RECORD: 11-4-1

With Colin Kaepernick as the starter for a full offseason, the 49ers' offense could be even more dynamic next year. Conversely, teams now have tape on the 25-year-old, who only started nine games, including the playoffs. Defensively, the 49ers have to figure out what went wrong down the stretch when they allowed more than 30 points in four of their last six games.

In Brief



Lindsey Vonn is airlifted to a hospital after her high-speed crash Tuesday.

SKIING

Vonn Injures Her Knee In High-Speed Crash

Lindsey Vonn will miss the rest of the ski season after tearing knee ligaments and breaking a bone in her leg in a high-speed crash Tuesday at the world championships. The U.S. team expects her to return for the next World Cup season and the 2014 Sochi Olympics. Vonn lost balance on her right leg while landing a jump in the super-G. She flipped in the air, landed on her back and smashed through a gate before coming to a halt. (AP)

NFL

Energy Concerns Raised Before the Super Bowl

Concerned the Superdome might not be able to handle the energy needed for its first Super Bowl since Hurricane Katrina, officials spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on upgrades to decayed utility lines, according to documents obtained by the Associated Press. The improvements apparently weren't enough, however, to prevent a 34-minute power outage during the Super Bowl on Sunday. Two days later, officials still had not pinpointed the cause of the outage. (AP)

TV Lineup

NHL (7:30 P.M., NBCSN) The Bruins and Canadiens, who are a combined 12-3-1 this season, play in Montreal.

NBA (9 P.M., ESPN) Do you know who has the best record in the NBA? It's not the Heat or the Thunder. It's the Spurs, who are going for their 11th straight win vs. the Timberwolves.

Las Vegas Odds for Super Bowl XLVIII

1) Patriots: 7-to-1 2) 49ers: 8-to-1 3) Broncos: 8-to-1 4) Packers: 10-to-1 T5) Ravens: 14-to-1 T5) Texans: 14-to-1 T12) Redskins: 30-to-1

Sports

At Their Best Against the Best

Wizards have wins over Heat, Thunder, Bulls and Clippers

Wizards

The New York Knicks (31-15) enter Wednesday's game against the Washington Wizards at Verizon Center as one of the NBA's biggest surprises, finally making good use of their All-Star talent to establish an Atlantic Division lead.

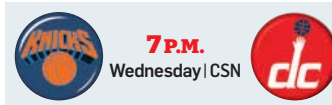
So getting a win against the 12-35 Wizards should be no problem for Carmelo Anthony and Co., right? Not so fast.

Washington has managed to play at its best against the NBA's elite, inexplicably posting wins over the Heat, Bulls, Thunder and Clippers — all of whom are in the top four in their respective conference.

Eight of Washington's 12 victories are against teams who currently are over .500, while they have



The Wizards got their 12th win of the year against the 34-16 Clippers on Monday.



struggled against sub-.500 squads.

So what gives? How are the woeful Wizards getting an edge on powerhouse opponents?

"When we play the way we're capable of playing, we can compete with the top teams," Washington coach Randy Wittman said. "These guys have proven it all year, injuries or no injuries."

Now, the Clippers were without Chris Paul and Blake Griffin in Monday's 98-90 loss, but the Wizards were missing Bradley Beal. And don't forget, Washington beat Miami while John Wall was still out.

Guys like A.J. Price and Garrett Temple have had career nights in these stunning victories, suggesting perhaps that not all opponents are created equally, and that getting up for a shot to knock off one

of the league's Goliaths is way more appealing than facing Charlotte.

"Throughout the season we have played to the level of our competition," Wizards forward Martell Webster said. "Normally when we have a very tough opponent, we tend to play at a high level. I am not surprised by our efforts. We know what we can do, we just have to be consistent and execute. This is the level we need to continue to play throughout the remainder of the season."

Even with Wall back in the lineup, the Wizards haven't played consistently enough to reveal their true identity. However, their penchant for pulling upsets has made the rest of the league reconsider a date with the Wizards as a push-over. For a team looking for any positives as it can get, that's a step in the right direction.

"A lot of teams have started respecting us more," Wall said.

ELLIOTT SMITH (FOR EXPRESS)

Tough Road Ahead for U.S. Soccer

Soccer

Ten matches stand between the U.S. men's national team and a ticket to the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil.

The CONCACAF World Cup qualifying hexagonal kicks off Wednesday with the U.S. heading to San Pedro Sula, Honduras, for a match against its Central American foe.

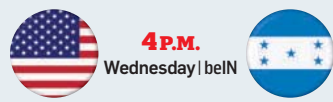
The single-table, final qualifying round consists of five home matches and five road matches against the other finalists: Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica and Jamaica. At the end of the round, the top three teams advance to the World Cup, and the fourth team is entered into a playoff against the winner of the Oceania region for another World Cup berth.

"There is no easy way, not for Mexico, not for the United States,

Meanwhile...

U.S. stars such as Clint Dempsey and Tim Howard will be in uniform Wednesday, but there will be one noticeable absence: Landon Donovan is mulling retirement and has yet to report to preseason training for the Los Angeles Galaxy A.C.

not for anybody," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said. "You have to get your points, you have to win your games and you have to get the job done. You have to go into every game with the expectation that it's going to be difficult, that it will challenge you to the limits. That's our approach: Take it seriously every time you go out onto the field, very seriously, and be very awake, and then we'll see how it runs out through those 10 games."



Honduras will not have former D.C. United star Andy Najar available; he was ruled out with an injury suffered while training with his new team Anderlecht. The Honduras roster will include a number of stars from its Olympic team that beat Spain and gave Brazil a scare in the quarterfinals.

The match against Honduras kicks off a rough stretch for the U.S., with three of the first four hexagonal games coming away from home. The only home match in that stretch is against Costa Rica on March 22 in Colorado, which will serve as an appetizer for the anticipated March 26 clash vs. Mexico. AVI CREDITOR (FOR EXPRESS)

Ravens Take a Victory Lap



RAY LEWIS HOISTS the Lombardi Trophy at the Ravens' Super Bowl victory celebration Tuesday. Thousands of fans lined the streets of Baltimore and packed M&T Bank Stadium to celebrate the team's win over the 49ers.

PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

lookout



The Joke's on Him
Donald Trump is suing comedian Bill Maher for \$5 million **23**

Inside Jokes



Spectator Sport

When the power went out during the Super Bowl, I immediately turned to Twitter. Not for an explanation of what happened, but to see what comedians were saying about it.

February offers two more potentially train-wreck-laden live events: the Grammys on Feb. 10 and the Oscars on Feb. 24. Cue up these four feeds for



maximum enjoyment:
Paula Pell @perlapell

Known for: Sharp witticisms; "30 Rock" (as Pete's wife).

Best Super Bowl

Tweet: "When Beyonce dances she looks like what every very drunk person thinks they look like when they dance."

Thomas Lennon @thomaslennon

Known for: Committing seriously to silly situations; "Reno 911!"

Best SB Tweet: "This is when Bane strikes," moments after the blackout.

Billy Eichner @BillyEichner

Known for: Pop-culture rants; host of Fuse's "Billy on the Street."

Best SB Tweet: "I will not be satisfied until the Obamas come skydiving down from a helicopter," at halftime.

Rob Delaney @robdelaney

Known for: Gross-out humor and quippy puns; Twitter.

Best SB Tweet: "Just yelled 'Football!' at some raw hamburger & threw it at my wife."



For more of Rudi's comedy musings, follow him on Twitter: @rudigreenberg.

The Road to Freedom

Tim McGraw's new album marks a pivotal period of growth for the country superstar

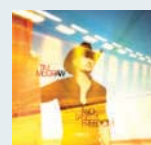
Music

Tim McGraw is free.

The country star has moved on from a troubling label, quit drinking and grown up a bit, and all that has given McGraw a new energy he says you can hear on his new album, "Two Lanes of Freedom."

"I think this record is definitely sort of a flag in the ground for me," McGraw says.

His first release with Big Machine Records has been the talk of Nashville for a year now. Singles



Tim McGraw

Two Lanes of Freedom

have marched up the charts and fans have responded enthusiastically as McGraw debuted music on the road during his stadium tour with Kenny Chesney last year. (McGraw will perform in Bristow, Va., at Jiffy Lube Live on June 1.)

For the first time in years, everything is aligned exactly how McGraw wants it. And the 45-year-old singer is fired up like he's playing under Friday night lights.

"I think a real cloud has been lifted," says Coran Capshaw, McGraw's manager since 2009. "He's got a great new partner in Big Machine and can put his music



out and be in control of his career."

McGraw's final five years at Curb Records led to some discouraging low-wattage moments in what has otherwise been a mostly perfect two-decade career, and it's still not completely over. While a judge allowed McGraw to move forward with his recording career

and sign with Big Machine, the legal fight drags on in court. And Curb continues to sell McGraw records, releasing a duets album just two weeks ago.

The Louisiana native says it was often like that in the final years with Curb — out of sync. McGraw remained a star during this peri-

od, stretching into acting and selling more records and tickets than most of his peers. But there's no question it was a stagnant period in which a series of best-of releases mixed in with new music led to confusion and frustration for fans.

It was even worse for McGraw, good friend Brad Warren says. "When I hear stories about Michael Jordan and sports, I think of Tim," Warren says. "He is competitive with everything all the time."

"[I'm] growing up a little bit, I guess, is what I'm trying to say more than anything overall."

The release of "Two Lanes of Freedom" also neatly bookmarks a new period of growth for McGraw personally. While struggling professionally, he was also reshaping his life away from the spotlight where he and wife Faith Hill juggle two superstar careers while raising three daughters. He quit drinking and started putting things right.

"[I'm] growing up a little bit, I guess, is what I'm trying to say more than anything overall," McGraw says.

He recalled a recent conversation with Hill in which he said something somewhat mature.

"She looked at me and said, 'Well, I think you've finally hit 16.' So I think that's been good for our marriage. I'll take 16."

CHRIS TALBOTT (AP)



Sweet Beats and Eats: Synth-pop mavens Phoenix and Passion Pit, ascendant rapper Kendrick Lamar, at left, and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs will headline Sweetlife 2013, a two-stage music and food festival at Merriweather Post Pavilion on May 11. Toki Underground, 13th Street Meats and DGS Delicatessen will serve food, while local brewers DC Brau and Flying Dog pour drinks. Tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday via Ticketfly. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

lookout entertainment

The Real Draw of 'Idol'

Fox's singing contest doesn't need stars — it creates new ones

Television

FOX 8:00 "American Idol" enters its Hollywood round tonight, moving beyond the good-to-awful auditions to when favorites emerge.

Much of the discussion surrounding "Idol" has centered on its declining ratings, even though the show still reached nearly 16 million viewers last Wednesday.

The move to add big stars Mariah Carey, Nicki Minaj and Keith Urban as judges has not helped. At its height, "Idol" was proof of the adage that television does not need stars; it makes them. Nobody had heard of Ryan Seacrest, Randy Jackson or Simon Cowell when the



Judges Nicki Minaj, Keith Urban and Mariah Carey haven't helped "Idol's" ratings.

show began.

By the second season, they had all become household names.

People still watch "Idol" for star-making moments such as Micah Johnson's audition. Clearly saddled with a speech impediment, the con-

testant explained how his throat was injured in tonsil surgery. That handicap vanished when he sang.

Corny? You bet. But that's the kind of feel-good schmaltz viewers have come to expect — and embrace.

KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNIVERSAL UCLICK)

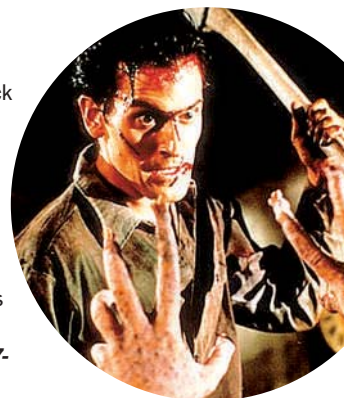


1 Red Lips and Fingertips

Motley Crue is not the most feminist band in the world, but its musicians sure love women. Their 1987 ode to the fairer sex (and strip clubs), "Girls, Girls, Girls," has been script-flipped by all-female New York tribute band Girls Girls Girls. Now we can rock out without any inward cringing. **Rams Head Center Stage, Maryland Live! Casino, 7002 Arundel Mills Circle, Hanover, Md.; Wed., 8 p.m., free; 443-445-2500, Marylandlivecasino.com.**

2 Self-Aware Horror Night

We have no idea why the Black Cat is pairing a "Sex on the Beach" drink special with a pair of horror movies for this week's Drink and a Movie, but we'll endure an awkwardly named cocktail for a double feature of "Evil Dead 2," starring Bruce Campbell, at right, and Joss Whedon's "Cabin in the Woods." **Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; Wed., 8 p.m., free; 202-667-7960, Blackcatdc.com. (U Street)**



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GOVERNMENT

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IT

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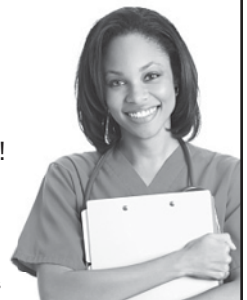
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rent, \$480/month. Close to
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CAPITOL HILL -- Share house, rooms for rent.
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▲
“I’m not sure the big objection to Johnson will be from the hardcore fans worried about the mainstreaming of soccer broadcasting. ... It’ll be whether the world’s biggest sporting event is big enough to overcome a celebrity announcer.”

— **BARRY PETCHESKY AT DEADSPIN.COM** reacts to news that one-time college basketball broadcaster Gus Johnson will make his national soccer debut during the Manchester United vs. Real Madrid Champions League match next week.



▲
“Seriously, even though [it’s] the people on TV who are the most recognized in the field of meteorology, there are many more who are just as invested in the science.”

— **BOSTON.CBSLOCAL.COM'S JOE JOYCE**, a meteorologist at WBZ-TV in Boston, points out Tuesday on National Weatherperson’s Day that the folks on television aren’t the only ones who deserve some shine in the field.

▲
“He’s not the first major political operative to jump to the sizzle of L.A. from the stench of Washington, D.C. There’s a long list of former aides and speech writers ... who’ve moved on to producing and writing (ultimately pretty lackluster) political movies and TV shows.”

— **CONNOR SIMPSON AT NEWS.YAHOO.COM'S THE ATLANTIC WIRE BLOG** reacts to news that Jon Favreau, President Barack Obama’s head speechwriter, is leaving to try to make it in Hollywood.

Blog Log

▲
“Given the number of registered vehicles in the city, and the number of out-of-state vehicles that park here, I would say that figure is pretty on par with most other highly urbanized areas, if not a little low.”

— **COMMENTER SCOOTERJ2003 AT DCIST.COM** reacts to a WJLA-TV story that the District wrote 1.8 million parking tickets in 2012, up 200,000 tickets from 2011.



▲
“Just saw a headline: ‘Ricki Lake Show Cancelled.’ Had to make sure the flux capacitor in my web browser didn’t accidentally go back to 2003.”

— **@SHAWNCOURCHESNE** had no idea that the syndicated talk-show host was back on the air before finding out that her show will not be renewed for a second year, Twentieth Television announced Monday.

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puzzles lookout

HOROSCOPE

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You may have to work a little harder than usual today to get the same results, and that's the product of a recent slowdown.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You have a great deal of enthusiasm today, but you want to apply it to an endeavor that you can really wrap your head around.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The schedule you have to keep may not be conducive to a relaxed way of working; you'll have to work more quickly than you had planned.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You will recognize a few things as being different from what you expected — but that will allow you to enjoy greater freedom.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) As with so many others today, freedom itself is a big concern, and anything you can do to guarantee yours will be a big plus.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may have little good to say about what you are working on at this time, but someone else recognizes that it may be among your best efforts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You cannot afford to be distracted by something that doesn't concern you; keep yourself focused, and avoid anything draining.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You have a journey ahead of you, but you may not be sure where you will be at the end. Yes, the journey is its own destination!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You will be captivated by something that someone does apparently in private — but you will have caught a glimpse that has you making plans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You should be able to finally sit down and get back to work after an unintended hiatus. Now that you're back at it, rewards follow.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may be tempted to see things in a negative light, but someone close to you will remind you of your naturally positive outlook.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You can do or say just the right thing today to have a friend feeling much better about what he or she has recently said or done.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 155-165, BEST SCORE 220

E ₁	O ₁	R ₁	R ₁	H ₄	B ₃	T ₁

--

 RACK 1

E ₁	I ₁	Y ₄	T ₁	T ₁	W ₄	N ₁

2nd Letter Triple

--

 RACK 2

A ₁	U ₁	H ₄	L ₁	N ₁	T ₁	C ₃

--

 RACK 3

O ₁	U ₁	N ₁	B ₃	G ₂	L ₁	W ₄

Double Word Score

--

 RACK 4

Yesterday's Solution

C ₃	A ₁	R ₁	R ₁	I ₁	O ₁	N ₁	RACK 1 =	59
D ₂	U ₁	R ₁	A ₁	B ₃	L ₁	E ₁	RACK 2 =	62
C ₃	O ₁	C ₃	O ₁	N ₁	U ₁	T ₁	RACK 3 =	72
P ₃	R ₁	E ₁	F ₄	A ₁	D ₂	E ₁	RACK 4 =	63
PAR SCORE 195-205								TOTAL
								256

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. Seven-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

MEDIUM

		5		4				7
		6	5	3	7	1	8	
				2	8		6	
			7	6	3			
6	3						2	1
			4	1	2			
	1		6	9				
	9	2	3	8	1	6		
3				7		8		

Yesterday's Solution

2	8	6	7	3	9	5	4	1
4	5	9	1	2	8	7	6	3
3	1	7	6	4	5	9	2	8
5	3	4	9	8	6	1	7	2
7	6	1	2	5	3	8	9	4
8	9	2	4	7	1	3	5	6
6	4	5	8	1	7	2	3	9
9	7	8	3	6	2	4	1	5
1	2	3	5	9	4	6	8	7

Need more Sudoku? Find another puzzle in the Comics section of The Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

Comics

POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast



45 | 28

Today: Intervals of clouds and sunshine today. Mainly clear tonight.



44 | 36

Tomorrow: Sun followed by clouds tomorrow. A bit of rain late tomorrow night.

Looking Ahead



FRI 50 | 33 **SAT** 42 | 34 **SUN** 52 | 40

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 7:10 a.m.
Sunset today: 5:35 p.m.
Moonrise today: 3:50 a.m.
Moonset today: 1:53 p.m.

Almanac

Normal high: 45
Record high: 70
Normal low: 29
Record low: -10

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lookout puzzles

Crossword

LETTER PAIR-FECT

ACROSS

- 1 Autumn blossom
6 Thailand, once
10 Divisible by two
14 Michael Jackson performed in one
15 Bindlestiff
16 Airline price
17 ____ in on (approached a target)
18 Decorative water server
19 Go with the ____
20 Shorten
22 Result of a thumbs-up?
23 Chew the fat
24 Alpine song
25 Bathing beaches
29 Breakfast rasher
32 Lomond and Ness, e.g.
33 Feeder stream
37 Reverberate
38 Loses one's coat
39 Port between Buffalo and Cleveland
40 Good-deed doers
42 Gale's teammate Piccolo
43 Lovers' engagement
44 Saudi Arabian currency
45 Like gummy bears
48 Lady's man
49 Booty
50 Old computer add-on
57 Planning to vote no
58 Fictional coward
59 Called one's bluff
60 Fingerboard ridge
61 1816 Jane Austen novel
62 Round sealing gasket
63 Pitchfork prong
64 Phobia
65 "Beau ____"

DOWN

- 1 Turkish general (Var.)
2 Untidy diner
3 Egyptian pyramid, e.g.
4 "As ____" (letter closing)
5 They fly by night
6 Arabic honorific
7 Davenport's state
8 Help a criminal
9 Additional
10 Brazen boldness
11 Sound, as reasoning
12 Become weatherworn
13 Handrail support
21 "____ in victory" (elementary lesson)
24 Not me
25 Common person
26 Out of one's mind
27 Needing kneading, maybe
28 Author without credit
29 Baseball Hall-of-Famer George
30 Assist
31 Broadcasting giant
33 Therefore

- 34 Verdi specialty
35 Omani money
36 Pinings
38 Worcestershire sauce ingredient
41 Blubber
42 English setter, e.g.
44 Fixed circle above a moving center?
45 Knitting or bookbinding, e.g.
46 "Gregorita" painter Robert
47 Consumed
48 Underwater transmission
50 Figure on a staff
51 Phone call cost, in old films

- 52 Capital of Italia
53 Barely cooked
54 Crocus cousin
55 Blow off steam
56 Outer limit

Yesterday's Solution

1	L	E	G	A	L	6	E	L	B	O	W	13	S	A	W
14	E	R	O	D	E	15	T	A	U	P	E	16	E	L	Y
17	T	R	O	J	A	18	H	O	R	S	E	19	C	I	A
20	C	A	P	S	T	21	U	N	E	A	S	22	K	A	R
23	O	R	A	T	O	24	R	O	O	T	25	E	L	D	E
26	L	E	I	S	27	S	T	A	I	N	28	A	P	I	T
29	I	N	N	30	B	A	T	I	N	G	31	R	O	W	
32	C	A	T	33	T	O	T	E	D	34	D	I	R	E	
35	E	L	O	P	E	36	C	R	E	A	T	E			
37	A	D	D	O	N	38	T	R	E	N	T	O	N		
39	L	E	P	T	A	40	M	A	O	I	S	T			
41	U	F	O	42	B	L	A	C	K	B	E	A	43	U	T
44	M	A	N	45	L	A	T	H	E	46	A	T	47	S	E
48	S	T	Y	49	E	P	E	E	S	50	T	E	51	A	C

EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

TODAY IN HISTORY

1933 The 20th Amendment to the Constitution, the so-called "lame duck" amendment, is proclaimed in effect by Secretary of State Henry Stimson.

1952 Britain's King George VI dies; he was succeeded by his daughter, who became Queen Elizabeth II.

1998 President Bill Clinton signs a bill changing the name of Washington National Airport to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

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Editorial: 202-334-6800
Fax: 202-334-9777
Circulation: 202-334-6992
Advertising: 202-334-6732
or ads@readexpress.com
Classifieds: 202-334-6200

Published by Express Publications LLC
1150 15th St. NW, Washington, DC 20071
A Subsidiary of The Washington Post Co.

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people **lookout**

BAFFLING AWARDS

Pudding Pot Reads 'I Visited Harvard and All I Got Was This Incomprehensible Object'

Kiefer Sutherland has been named Man of the Year by Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatricals. Sutherland will be roasted and receive his ceremonial pudding pot Friday. The 46-year-old Sutherland has been in dozens of films but is perhaps best known for his role as Jack Bauer in the television series "24," for which he won Golden Globe and Primetime Emmy awards. (AP)

MOMS

'I Want What's Best for You: Settling Down at Age 18'

Justin Bieber's mother, Pattie Mallette, wants him to reunite with may-be-ex Selena Gomez, Radaronline.com said. "Justin's mom ... [is] impressed by what a good influence she's been on her son," an unnamed source told Radar. Gomez, however, is reportedly not thrilled with tabloid allegations that Bieber has been using drugs. (EXPRESS)



Selena's shampoo smelled great. Justin wondered if he could safely drink it.

Victims

**The Best Revenge: Drinking Beer in One's Underwear**

Jason Hoppy is, says Radar online.com, going to turn soon-to-be-ex-wife Bethenny Frankel's huge walk-in closet into a man cave if he gets the apartment in their divorce. "Jason once accused Bethenny of loving the closet more than him," a source told Radar. (EXPRESS)

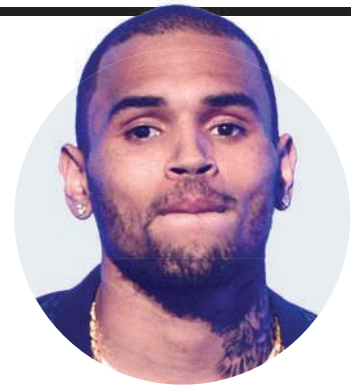


Suspiciously, his charity of choice is an orangutan sanctuary.

CORRECTIONS

'I'm Only 1/4 Ape'

Donald Trump is suing Bill Maher for \$5 million, TMZ.com reported. In October, Trump offered \$5 million to President Barack Obama's charity of choice if he would release his college and passport records. Maher said in January that he would give \$5 million to charity if Trump could prove his father is not an orangutan. In the lawsuit, filed Monday in Los Angeles, Trump says he gave Maher a copy of his birth certificate and that Maher reneged on his promise. (EXPRESS)



CASE CLOSED-ISH

Law Enforcement Returns To Arresting Lindsay Lohan

A sheriff's spokesman says an investigation into a fight between Chris Brown and Frank Ocean will soon be closed without any charges being sought. Los Angeles sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore says investigators will speak with Ocean before closing the case, but the agency is unlikely to pursue a misdemeanor battery charge against Brown. (AP)

"I definitely rocked a Lycra unitard-y thing. ... I rocked it so hard with my Doc Martens."



— JESSICA ALBA TELLS WOMEN'S HEALTH ABOUT HER BIGGEST FASHION FAILURE — A FLUORESCENT UNITARD WITH KEY-HOLE CUTOUTS.

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THERE'S NO BAND-AID BIG ENOUGH TO COVER THESE CUTS

Billions in proposed Medicare cuts to Hospital Outpatient Clinics threaten access to care in low-income communities.

Looming deficit reduction talks are putting critical Medicare payments for hospital outpatient clinic services at risk. For decades, hospital-based clinics have provided the primary — and sometimes the only — access to physicians for the nation's underserved rural and urban communities. The potential for billions in cuts ignores the added costs hospitals incur for caring for the uninsured and underinsured, and will force these clinics to close.

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